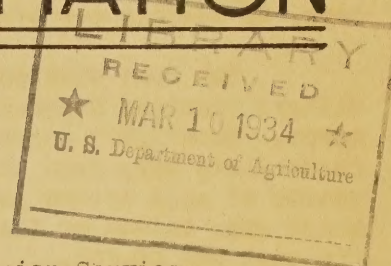


E. M. Night CURRENT EXTENSION·INFORMATION



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Reserve

Reported by Members of the Staff of the Extension Service,
during February, 1933.

OFFICE OF COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK

Administration

C. B. SMITH

Dr. K. L. Butterfield's six lectures delivered before Vanderbilt University in 1932 have come out in book form under the title, "The Christian Enterprise Among Rural People." It contains frequent reference to adult agricultural extension and 4-H club work.

Central States

R. A. TURNER

(1) The Junior Chamber of Commerce of the United States has recently completed the formation of a farm youth committee. Walfred E. Boberg, Webb Publishing Company, St. Paul, Minn., is chairman of this committee. The committee has decided to encourage local junior chambers of commerce to foster 4-H club work in their respective counties or States. There are 120 junior chambers of commerce located in 29 States and representing all sections of the country.

(2) A study has just been completed of the number of former 4-H club members enrolled for the college year 1932-33 in courses of agriculture or home economics at the State agricultural colleges of the Central States. The study shows that 2,178 students, or 28.54 percent of the total enrollment in these courses, are former 4-H club members. Indiana leads with 42.1 percent, Kansas is second with 39.7 percent, Illinois is third with 35.36 percent, and Nebraska is fourth with 32.11 percent. Next in order of rank come South Dakota, Ohio, Minnesota, Kentucky, Iowa, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Michigan, and Missouri. This year's percentage of 28.54 is the highest since these annual studies were first made in 1927-28.

Subject-Matter Specialists

O. S. FISHER

R. A. Wasson, extension agronomist in Louisiana, reports that more than 5,000 farmers planted Austrian peas or hairy vetch as winter cover crops. The

average planting was 10 acres per farmer.. The average increase last year in crops following winter cover crops was for cotton, 450 pounds of seed cotton, and for corn, 23 bushels per acre.

The most outstanding single demonstration was conducted by the T. B. Gilbert Planting Company in Franklin Parish, La., where W. P. Sellers is county agent. Here 1,500 acres was planted to Austrian winter peas in the fall of 1931. Check plots vary from 10 rows to 10 acres. The amount of increase averaged 500 pounds of seed cotton per acre. The total increase was 500 extra bales of cotton, which when valued at the September 20 price was worth \$20,000. The total cost of the seed was \$2,000.

C. D. LOWE

(1) Those who followed the plans recommended by the Missouri Extension Service, and there were 3,674 of them in 1932, and marketed their fall pigs in March and early April, and their spring pigs in August and early September, received \$4.50 a hundredweight for their hogs. They were also able to produce their hogs for \$1 per hundredweight less and by being able to market them at the high time, received \$2 per hundredweight more for them than neighbors received for their hogs. This difference of \$2 per hundredweight or \$4 per head, meant \$320 on a carload of hogs, or \$640 to the good hog producer who got out 2 carloads during the year.

(2) In 1932, 5,450 Missouri farmers raised 227,000 hogs under the provisions of the extension service's plan for hog sanitation. During the year 4,408 movable hog houses were reported as having been built.

(3) Paul E. Newell, Mississippi Extension Service, reports that farmers in his State were assisted in procuring 244 purebred beef bulls, 47 purebred rams, 371 purebred boars, 4 purebred jacks, 132 purebred beef cows and heifers, 9 purebred ewes, 884 purebred sows and gilts, and 4 purebred brood mares during 1932.

(4) The census for 1930 shows that only 2.8 percent of Missouri's corn crop, 6 percent of the oats crop, and 10 percent of the hay crop was sold off the farm, although these crops occupied 11,294,000 acres or 81.6 percent of the cultivated area of the State. Ninety-four percent of the crops was fed to livestock on the farms.

The 16,000,000 acres of pasture, representing one half of the farm land of the State, finds its only cash outlet through livestock.

The Missouri animal husbandry specialist also has observed that those farmers in the State who have used horses or mules as their sole source of farm power have been able to furnish that power with practically no cash outlay and under present price levels at a very low cost. Such men, he states, are standing the strain of present economic conditions much better than their neighbors who use motor-driven farm implements.

K. F. WARNER

(1) Animal husbandry workers all over the country are seizing the opportunity offered by present conditions to render service to farmers by assisting

them in their live-at-home programs. It seems probable that the benefits derived from meat products soundly and properly prepared will materially assist in establishing livestock as a permanent part of well-balanced farming. It is also evident that the dressing, preserving, and consuming of meat from animals of various ages, breeding, weight, and condition, is proving a most effective illustration of the kind of meat animals that will bring the highest prices on the market.

(2) Director Campbell of Georgia can give the details of the organization, construction, and operation of a community cold-storage plant at Stilson, Ga., and of a community canning unit at Lawrenceville, Ga., made from a steam-driven road grader and a community fair exhibit building.

A. B. NYSTROM

(1) Jesse L. Collins, field agent in dairying in Kentucky, reports as follows concerning the new method of judging, combining type and production:

"We held two production shows in the State last summer and the cows were shown and awards made on the same basis as the demonstration which you gave here during the American Dairy Science Association meeting. I am pleased to say we think this is a good kind of show and considerable interest was created by a show of this type put on by one of the dairy herd improvement associations for its members."

(2) A plan for conducting dairy herd improvement association work in cooperation with Smith-Hughes agricultural schools has been devised by the extension dairy specialists in Nebraska. The advantage of this plan over others tried elsewhere lies in the requirement for two retests each year by a tester for one of the regular dairy herd-improvement associations. If successful, this plan would open up possibilities of reaching many dairymen who are not now receiving the benefits of association testing.

F. D. BUTCHER

Horse bot-control campaigns in Illinois are going forward again this year. Farm advisers report interest as of last year but scarcity of cash preventing some owners from joining in the effort. One county reports project not being accepted on account of loss of valued horse during the campaign last year.

W. K. WILLIAMS

(1) Extension Forester Graeber of North Carolina reports that in Caswell County farmers turn the unpleasant chore of woodchopping into a community social similar to the famous corn huskings. An enterprising farmer invited the men of his community to assist him in cutting firewood for the winter and to enjoy incidentally a good dinner and get-together. He had the trees to be cut already marked. The farmer had attended a timber-thinning demonstration given by the extension forester and each of the trees he had marked was crippled, diseased, or overcrowded.

(2) Extension Forester Bates of Puerto Rico reports that 1,571,300 forest tree seedlings were distributed to farmers of the island during 1932. This represented 86 percent of the total tree distribution of the Insular Forest

Service. Approximately 48 percent of the total distribution was planted for windbreaks and shelterbelts; the remainder for wood production. Kinds in greatest demand were Casuarina, Cedro (Spanish cedar) Samon (Rain tree), Mahogany (St. Domingo), and Cassia.

Mr. Bates stated that in spite of the hurricane of September, 1932, the depression, low prices of sugar, etc., the demand for forest planting stock was greater than could be supplied.

MARY ROKAHR

(1) The Nebraska Extension Service has initiated a new 4-H club this year called the fix-it-club. The object of the club is to repair anything about the home or the farm that needs repairing. The Nebraska staff members state that it is not a money-making club but will be a money-saving club and will make many homes more enjoyable and better places in which to live.

(2) Ralph Cole, extension economist, and Florence J. Atwood, extension nutritionist of Nebraska Extension Service, cooperated in preparing Some Food Economic Facts for the Homemaker, issued in two parts. Some of the material contained in these two circulars is adapted from Miscellaneous Extension Publication No. 7, entitled "Economic Facts for the Farm Home."

(3) Gertrude Humphreys, State home demonstration leader, West Virginia, is preparing a series of printed lessons on Adventures in Good Living. The titles of the first three numbers are: Outwitting Time and Money, Food Secrets for the Frugal Family, and Let's Dress Up The House. The series will continue during the year and covers other subjects such as parental education, home and community health, recreation, and education.

(4) There is considerable interest in the States in ways of presenting the value of home demonstration work to the public. One of the newer bulletins published by South Carolina Extension Service is entitled, "Home Demonstration: What It is and What It Does." Dollars and cents values are placed on certain phases of poultry, girls' 4-H club work, and marketing.

(5) Mary B. Settle, specialist in home improvement, Virginia, is launching a State-wide contest on Save a Chair. Virginia home demonstration agents report many attics housing beautiful antique chairs which no doubt will be brought out by this contest. Community and county contests will precede a State contest. There is very little, if any, cost attached to much of the repair work and as this year finds more labor available in many farm homes, the contest is especially timely.

C. P. CLOSE

(1) Cost of spray for 9 Wisconsin orchards totaling 513 trees served by the Ripon spray ring is reported by C. L. Kuehner, extension horticulturist as \$149.50. Five orchards received 8 sprays and 4 were sprayed 7 times. In one orchard spraying results showed 68 percent of U. S. No. 1, 20 percent of U. S. No. 2, and 12 percent of culls, Unsprayed apples had 4 percent U. S. No. 1, 24 percent U. S. No. 2, and 72 percent culls.

(2) C. L. Kuehner, extension horticulturist in Wisconsin, reports that cost account records of expense and income of spray methods from five counties show the following: Total number of trees, 1,274, on 19 farms; orchards ranging in size from 21 trees to 225 trees; cost of spraying, including labor and materials, \$388.49; bushels sold 3,006; and cash income \$2,347.35.

MIRIAM BIRDSEYE

(1) Increased activity of home demonstration workers in cooperating with agencies administering food and work relief.

(2) Leadership of State home demonstration agents and nutrition specialists in organization of State home-economics advisory committees, to bring together and correlate under the auspices of the State Home Economics Association the services of all home-economics graduates, for the guidance and assurance of relief organizations in (a) planning the best possible use of money available for food relief, helping with Red Cross cotton cloth plans, etc., (b) planning for educational work under trained leaders for families receiving relief, (c) promoting general use of yearly farm food supply plan based on nutritional needs.

Following the initiative of the nutrition specialist, in cooperation with agricultural product specialist, Texas, Virginia, Kansas, South Carolina, and Missouri have already formulated and printed such standards. Others have been using the same type of plan in mimeographed form.

These plans are being discussed not only by the nutrition specialist and other home demonstration workers with their home demonstration club members, but by agricultural specialists, and agents with farmers, as a basis for the live-at-home program, (d) home demonstration agents in many States, but especially in the South, where there are large plantations, lumber companies, and small mills, are assisting landowners and business men, as well as relief organizations, in drawing up plans for community canning centers. The success of such centers last year has led to a demand for an increased number.

Extension services in most States are urging that bona fide farm families be urged to obtain pressure equipment for themselves, or fair-sized portable outfits for the use of small neighborhood groups, rather than to go in for community canning centers on a large scale. In a letter written February 10, Sue Marshall, home demonstration agent, says that R. F. C.'s in Ashley County, Ark., plan to have at least 10 canning centers this year.

(3) Home demonstration workers plan to reach more farm homes with live-at-home information (1932 continued in 1933):

Texas - State goal, reach 85 percent of farm homes in each county. Average of 67 percent reached for State, more than 85 percent in several counties.

Arkansas - Goal for 1932, 11,000 farm families outside of home demonstration clubs reached with project series or major demonstrations like meat canning; goal for 1933 set at 17,000 families.

Results in both States: Membership of home demonstration clubs increased, new clubs organized outside contacts made.

State and county home demonstration workers are taking active parts in organizing State and local home-economics advisory committees to cooperate with State and local organizations or officials charged with administering work relief or food and clothing relief.

I discussed this plan in the States visited on my recent field trip in the South, in some cases in advance of the communications sent out by Doctor Stanley and the other national home-economics leaders.

Following my visit to Louisiana early in January, the State Home Economics Association set up a State advisory committee which included Ellen LeNoir, State home demonstration agent, chairman, the State supervisors of vocational education, and the resident professor of human nutrition at the State university. This committee contacted the State Relief Administration handling R. F. C. funds and was requested to organize county advisory committees of home-economics graduates, which should cooperate with county welfare workers by (1) preparing suggestive weekly food supply budgets based on current prices and foods locally available, (2) planning for educational work with families receiving relief.

R. J. HASKELL

The grain division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, through its grain standards educational committee and its regional supervisors, has been doing considerable extension work during the past 3 years by holding schools and meetings on the subject of grain grading and improved quality of grain in general. During the past 3 years 259 schools for farmers and dealers and 36 meetings with grain dealers were held. In a total of 22 States there was an attendance of 7,769 at the schools and 2,714 at the grain dealers' meetings.

Agricultural Economics Extension

T. S. THORFINNSEN

Following is a list of the adjustments which we have found completed or in progress among our farm-account cooperators:

(1) Drastic reduction of expenses.

- a. Farm expenses - Reduction of hired labor by exchange of work. Use of headers to save twine. Feeding of grain out of the bundle to save threshing. Neglect to vaccinate livestock. Use of horse power to maximum limit, tractor power used as little as possible. Automobiles not used in some cases. Licenses not bought in some instances.
- b. Household and living expenses - Elimination of nonessentials, failure to send children to college in some cases, raising as much of the food at home as possible (gardens, curing meats, etc.)

(2) Relinquishment of deed to mortgage holder with agreement regarding privilege of repossessing property in 3 to 5 years by resuming mortgage.

(3) Renting additional land where necessary machinery and family labor are available and where little, if any, additional cash expense is required for such expansion. This applies to cases where additional income is needed to meet unavoidable cash expenses.

(4) Curtailment of size of business in cases where burdensome cash operating expenses can be reduced by so doing.

(5) Relinquishment of deed to mortgage holder and renting of the same farm on shares.

(6) Reduction of cash rental rates.

(7) Borrowing on life insurance.

(8) Borrowing from relatives when possible.

(9) Interest and tax payments are delinquent in many cases.

OFFICE OF MOTION PICTURES

C. A. LINDSTROM

(1) A remarkable increase in the use of Department motion pictures by educational institutions is indicated by the fact that 128 copies of Department films were purchased by such institutions during the first 7 months of this fiscal year, as against 55 during the same period in 1932, an increase of about 133 percent. If the distribution among purchasers continues at the present rate, there will also be a considerable increase over last year in the number of educational institutions using films purchased from the Department.

The significance of such an enormous increase in the purchase of motion pictures at a time when budgets generally have been cut, and purposes for which expenditures are made have to be weighed most carefully one against the other, should not be overlooked. Apparently, educators are recognizing the importance, during the present period of stress, of giving increased attention to the extension of available agricultural information, and, forced to careful selection of educational aids, are coming to the conclusion that suitable motion pictures give them greater returns for investments made than possibly they had thought heretofore.

(2) In 1932 a large number of miscellaneous subjects were purchased, animal husbandry, conservation, and farm management ranking next in the order named. It is significant that in 1933 conservation was the subject most sought, crop production, animal husbandry, and insect control following in the order given. This would seem to indicate that more care is being given to the selection of subjects in order to serve the most useful purpose at the present time.

(3) Incidentally the circulation of Department motion pictures through these purchased copies is resulting in widespread dissemination of agricultural information at no expense to the Department.

